

Appl. No.: 10/687,566
Amendment dated September 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of June 14, 2005

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **(Previously Presented)** A method for synchronizing a plurality of clocks, the plurality of clocks comprising a first clock and a second clock, the method comprising:
 - (a) disabling a run time mode;
 - (b) receiving a selected time associated with the second clock, the selected time different than a reference time that is associated with the first clock, wherein at least one of the first clock or the second clock is associated with a medical device system;
 - (c) determining when the reference time equals the selected time;
 - (d) setting the second clock to the selected time, in response to (c); and
 - (e) enabling the run time mode.
2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the second clock is not associated with the medical device system.
3. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the first clock is associated with the medical device system.
4. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (d) comprises:
 - (i) setting the second clock by a component of the medical device system that is coupled to the second clock.

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5. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of clocks comprises a third clock, further comprising:

- (f) receiving the selected time that is associated with the third clock; and
- (g) setting the third clock to the selected time, in response to (c).

6. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the medical device system provides monitoring or treatment for a nervous system disorder.

7. **(Original)** The method of claim 6, wherein the nervous system disorder is selected from the group consisting of a disorder of a central nervous system, a disorder of a peripheral nervous system, a mental health disorder, and a psychiatric disorder.

8. **(Original)** The method of claim 7, wherein the nervous system disorder is selected from the group consisting of epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, essential tremor, dystonia, multiple sclerosis (MS), anxiety, a mood disorder, a sleep disorder, obesity, and anorexia.

9. **(Original)** The method of claim 6, wherein the nervous system disorder is epilepsy.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (b) comprises:

- (i) sending a command that is associated with the first clock;
- (ii) determining a delay time between the first clock and the second clock; and
- (iii) adjusting the selected time using the delay time.

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11. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (b) comprises:
 - (i) sending a command that is associated with the first clock;
 - (ii) determining a delay time between the first clock and the second clock; and
 - (iii) storing the delay time.
12. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the selected time is greater than the reference time.
13. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - (f) receiving a command to enable the run mode operation, the command being indicative that the selected time approximately equals the reference clock.
14. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the medical device system is selected from the group consisting of ~~an external system~~, a hybrid system, and an implanted system.
15. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the first clock is associated with a monitoring equipment that monitors the patient.
16. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the second clock is associated with a bedside device that is coupled to a medical implanted device.
17. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (c) comprises:
 - (i) determining that the reference time approximately equals the selected time by utilizing a Global Positioning System (GPS) clock reference.

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18. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (c) comprises:
- (i) determining that the reference time approximately equals the selected time by utilizing an atomic clock reference.
19. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (c) comprises:
- (i) determining that the reference time approximately equals the selected time by utilizing a time reference through a wireless communications connection.
20. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (c) comprises:
- (i) determining that the reference time approximately equals the selected time by utilizing a time reference through an Internet connection.
21. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (c) comprises:
- (i) receiving an indication from a user that the reference time approximately equals the selected time.
22. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of:~~
- (f) receiving a current time from the second clock;
- (g) subtracting the current time from the reference time in order to determine a time difference; and
- (h) if the time difference is greater than a first predetermined amount, resynchronizing the first and second clocks.
23. **(Cancelled)**

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24. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the first clock and the second clock are located in different time zones.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein (d) comprises:

(i) adjusting the second clock in accordance with a time transition between standard time and daylight savings time.

26. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 1.

27. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 10.

28. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 11.

29. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 13.

30. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 22.

Claims 31-34 **(Cancelled)**

35. **(Previously Presented)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 4.

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36. **(Previously Presented)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 5.

Claims 37-41 (Cancelled)

42. **(Currently Amended)** A system for synchronizing a plurality of clocks in a medical device system, the medical device system providing treatment to a patient with a nervous system disorder, the plurality of clocks comprising a first clock and a second clock, the system comprising:

a user interface;

a communications interface that is coupled to the second clock;

a memory; and

a processor that is connected to the user interface in order to receive an instruction from a user, the processor connected to the memory and configured to instructs the second clock through the communications interface, the processor further configured to perform:

(a) receiving a selected time associated with the second clock, the selected time different than a reference time that is associated with the first clock; and

(b) setting the second clock to the selected time so as to synchronize the first and second clock.

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43. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus of claim 42, further comprising a Global Positioning System (GPS) clock reference, and wherein the processor is configured to further perform:

(c) determining that the reference time approximately equals the first selected time by utilizing the Global Positioning System (GPS) clock reference.

44. **(Previously presented)** The apparatus of claim 42, further comprising an atomic clock reference, and wherein the processor is configured to further perform:

(c) determining that the reference time approximately equals the first selected time by utilizing the atomic clock reference.

45. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the processor is configured to further perform:

(c) receiving an indication from the user through the user interface that the reference time approximately equals the selected time.

Claims 46-49 **(Cancelled)**

50. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 17, wherein (a) – (e) are performed if a time difference between the first clock and the second clock exceeds a predetermined limit.

51. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 18, wherein (a) – (e) are performed if a time difference between the first clock and the second clock exceeds a predetermined limit.

52. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 17, wherein (a) – (e) are performed periodically at a prespecified interval.

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53. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 18, wherein (a) – (c) are performed periodically at a prespecified interval.

54. **(Previously Presented)** A method for synchronizing a first clock and a second clock, the method comprising:

- (a) receiving a selected time in a programmer, the programmer associated with the first clock;
- (b) setting the first clock to the selected time; and
- (c) providing a control message to the second clock from the programmer, the second clock associated with a medical device, wherein the providing of the control message synchronizes the time on the first clock and the second clock.

55. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 54, wherein (b) and (c) are not performed simultaneously.

56. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 54, wherein (a) comprises:

- (i) receiving a signal from a Global Positioning System reference.

57. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 54, wherein (a) comprises:

- (i) receiving a signal from a control line, the control line coupling the programmer to a second medical device.

58. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 54, wherein (a) comprises:

- (i) receiving a signal from an Internet connection.

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59. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 54, wherein (a) comprises:

- (i) receiving a signal from a wireless communication connection.

60. **(Currently Amended)** A method for synchronizing a first clock, a second clock and a third clock, the method comprising: ~~The method of claim 57, wherein the second medical device includes a third clock and (e) causes the first, second and third clock to be~~ synchronized.

(a) receiving a selected time in a programmer from a first medical device, the programmer associated with the first clock and the first medical device associated with the second clock;

(b) setting the first clock to the selected time; and

(c) providing a control message to the third clock from the programmer, the third clock associated with a second medical device, wherein the providing of the control message synchronizes the time on the first clock, the second clock and the third clock.

61. **(New)** The method of claim 61, wherein (a) comprises:

- (i) receiving the selected time via a signal over a control line.

62. **(New)** The method of claim 61, wherein (a) comprises:

- (i) receiving the selected time via a signal from an Internet connection.

63. **(New)** The method of claim 61, wherein (a) comprises:

- (i) receiving the selected time via a signal from a wireless connection.